

Managing Image Volume in Digital Performing Arts Collections

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Arts West Building, University of Melbourne
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Theatre and Dance Platform (TDP)

Theatre and Dance Platform

Search

Go



The **Theatre and Dance Platform (TDP)** is a leading Australian digital repository which houses and showcases a wide range of theatre and dance collections. It aims to acknowledge and provide access to many important facets of Australian theatre and dance history, including the stories of key individuals, companies and institutions.

The **TDP** hosts a range of digitised material related to the performing arts, including photographs, scenic and costume designs, video recordings, posters and textual material such as programmes, reviews and correspondence and is easily searchable by key words and standard catalogue terms.

By contributing to preservation and online management of Australian theatre and dance materials, the University is supporting engagement with a wider public and research community. All the content in the collections is aggregated through Trove, the National Library of Australia's search engine, and with AusStage, a database of Australian live performing arts. This provides researchers with access to the collections from different entry-points, as well as adding to the context in which the Theatre and Dance Platform informs and shapes Australia's cultural heritage.

Key collections include items in the University archives and collections, as well as content that belongs to artists and companies external to the University. We have been excited by our first major partnership with Lucy Guerin Inc. and as a digital repository we welcome further contributions.

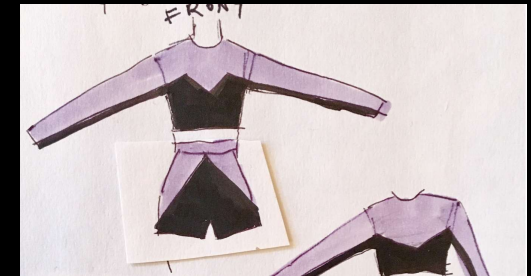
Q

Search the Repository
 This Community

DISCOVER

Type
Photograph (502)
Review (182)
Article (88)
Performance (53)
Audio Recording (39)
... View More
Author
Strodder, Belinda (142)
Guerin, Lucy (121)
Boardman, Brett (77)
Busby, Jeff (72)
Lorenzutti, Gregory (65)
... View More
Subject
Contemporary Dance (110)

<https://digitised-collections.unimelb.edu.au/handle/11343/92018>



THREE ACTORS.
THREE DANCERS.
UNPREDICTABLE
RESULTS.

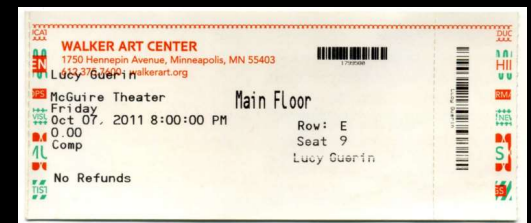
Mrs Puffin comes back

PLAY: *Goodnight Mrs Puffin*
THEATRE: Comedy.

Not so cheery

PLAY: *A Cherry Soul*, by Patrick White.
THEATRE: Union.

A CHERRY SOUL is a real play — HOWARD PALMER.

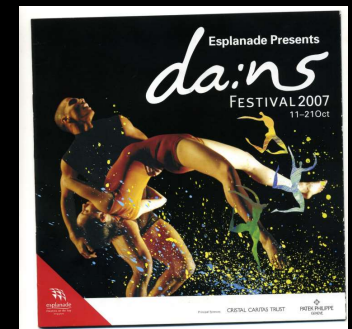


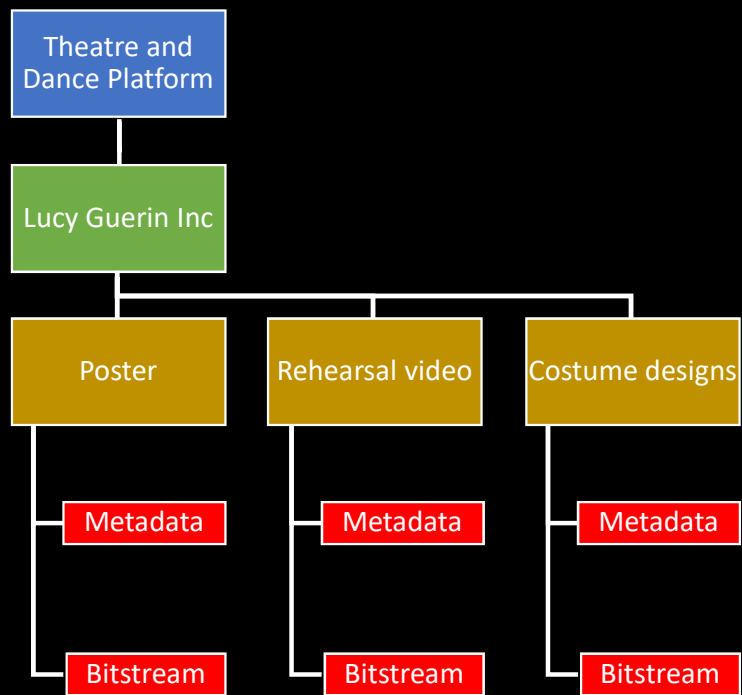
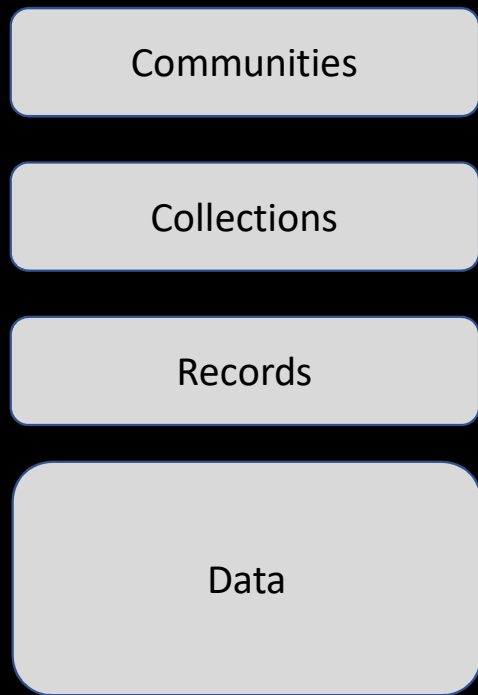
ZOE RETURNS IN TRIUMPH

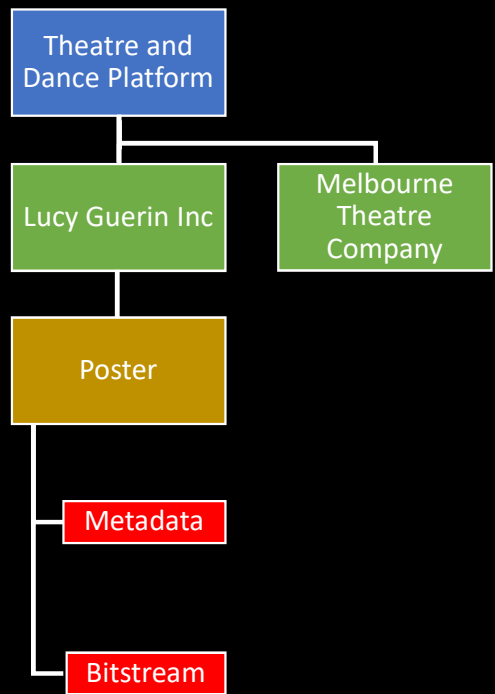
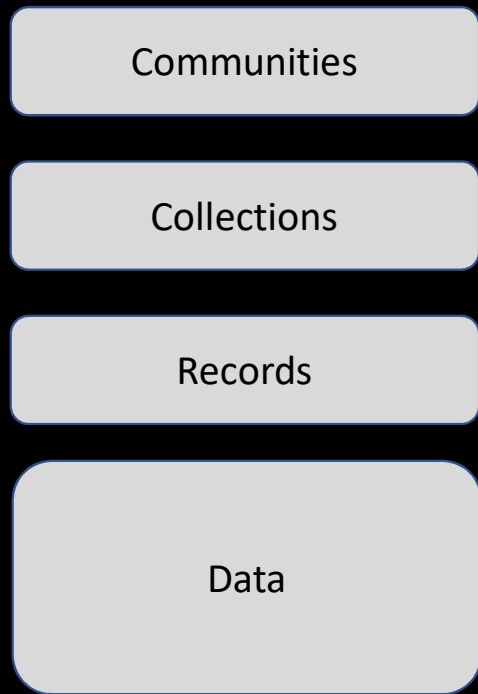
PLAY: *The Season of Sarraparilla*, by Patrick White.
THEATRE: Union.

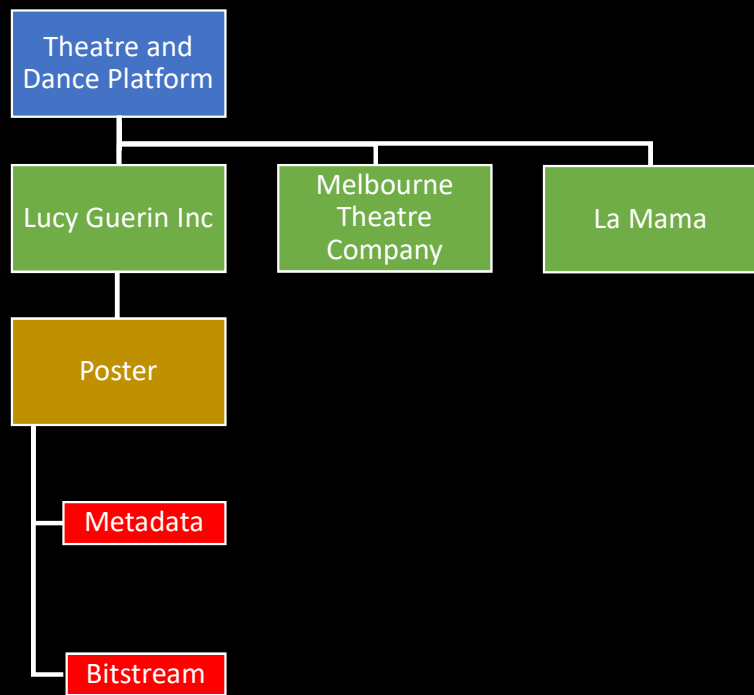
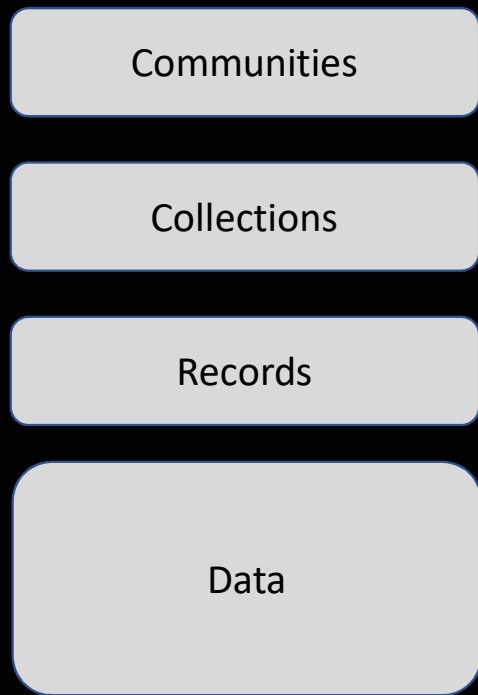
ZOE CALDWELL has returned to her old triumph which she does most to credit.

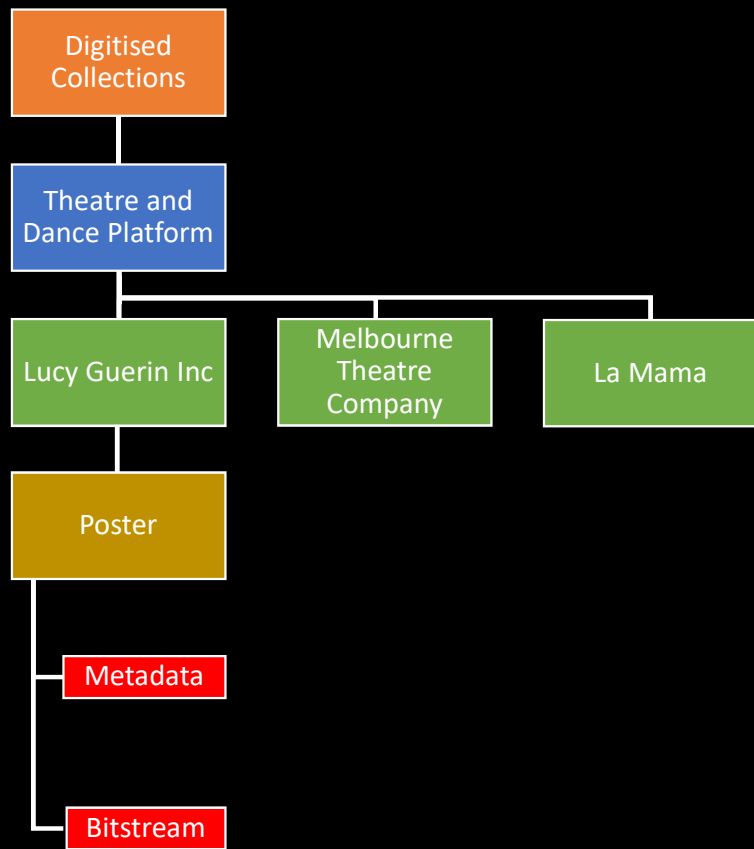
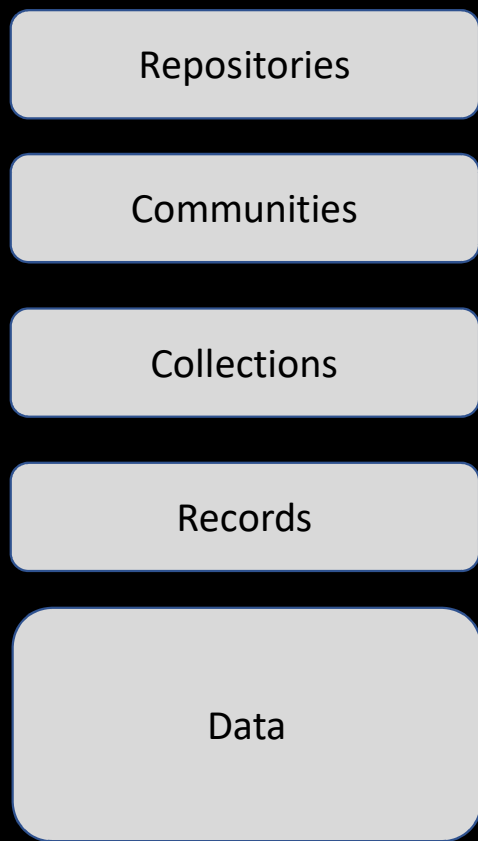
She is a beautiful young woman, with a bright smile and a clear voice. She is a beautiful young woman, with a bright smile and a clear voice.

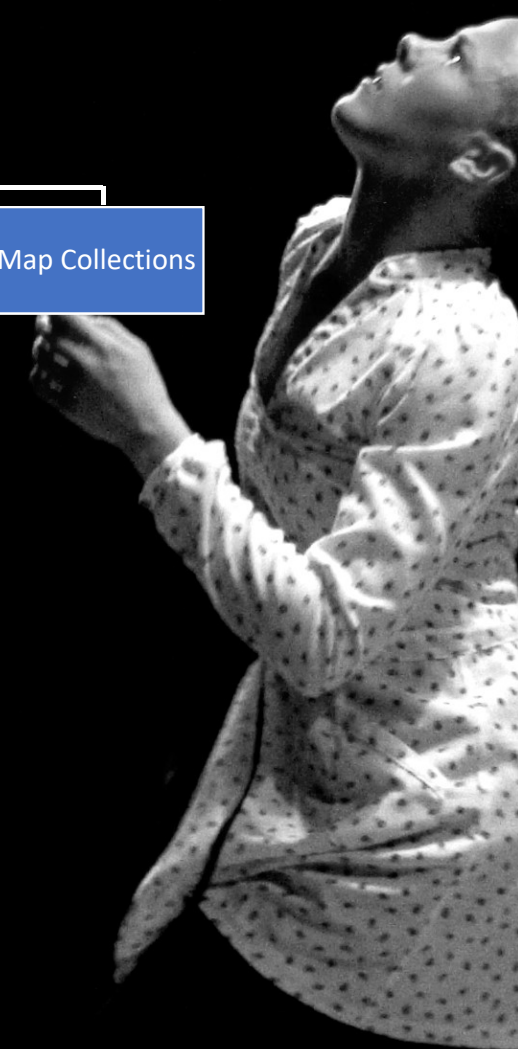
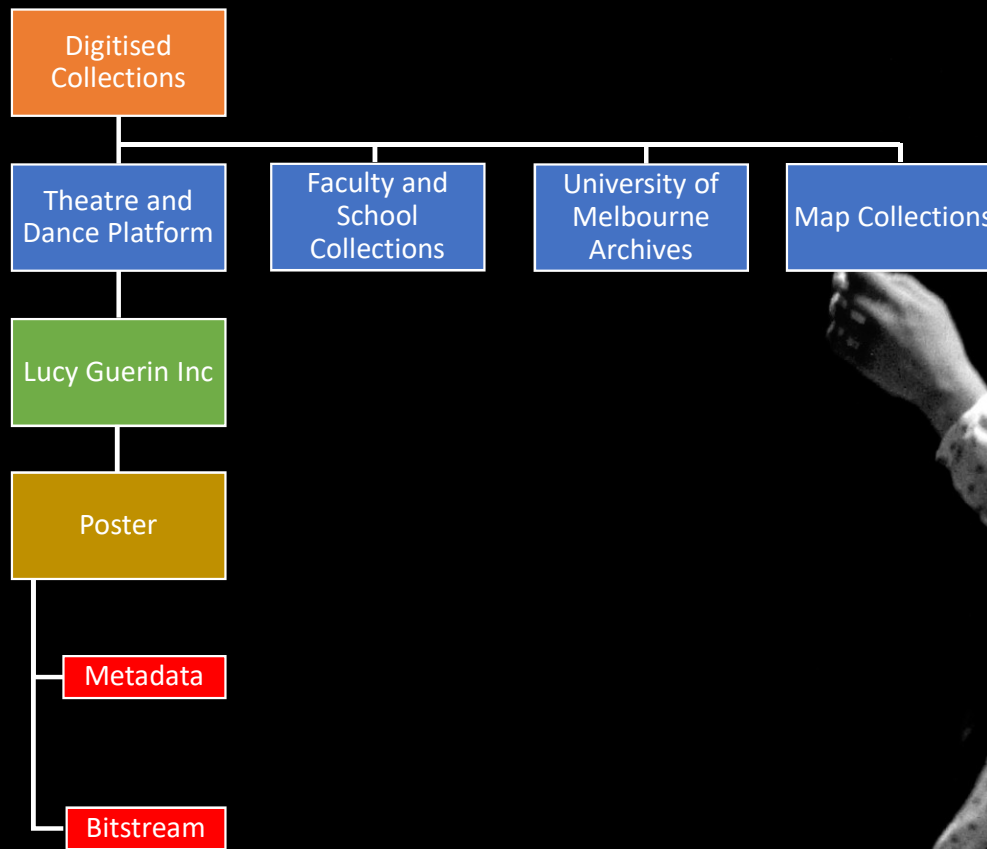
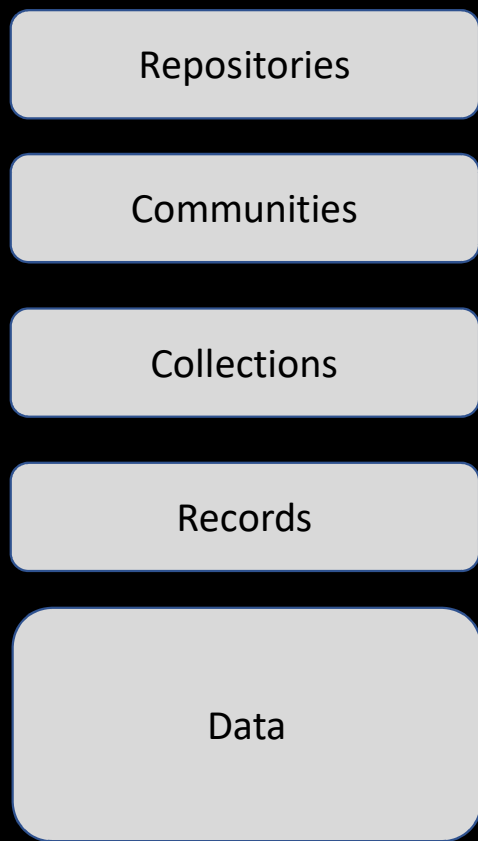












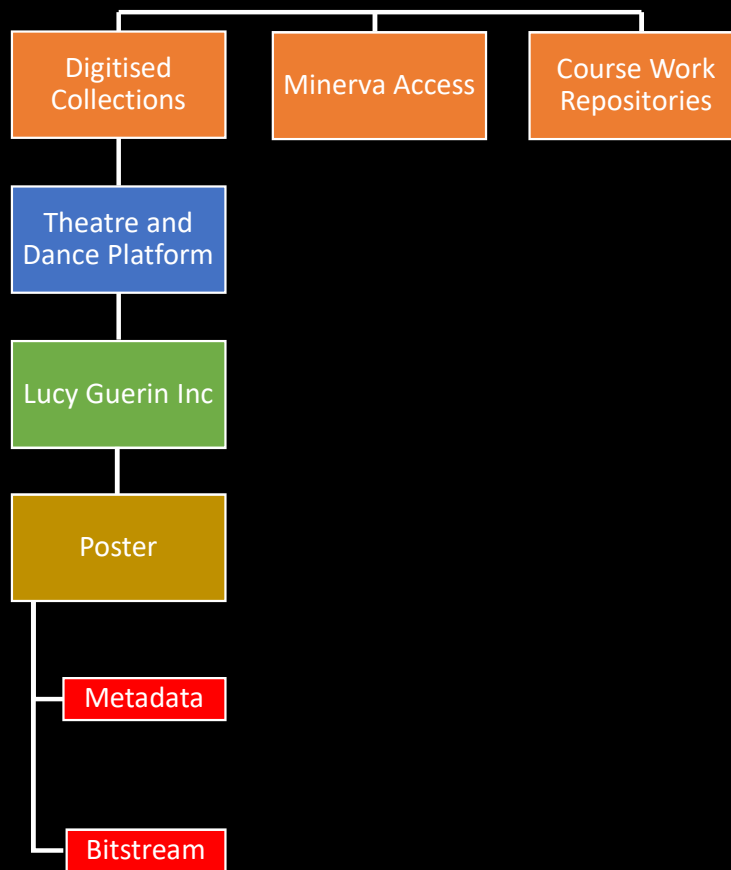
Repositories

Communities

Collections

Records

Data



The Problem of Image Volume

“The sheer volume of born digital images requires archivists to economize their efforts, and capturing metadata can be one of the most costly aspects of acquiring a born digital collection.”

Keough and Wolfe, 2012: 75



Image Volume 1963 vs 2005

A Cheery Soul by Patrick White
Union Theatre, Parkville, VIC
19 November 1963

148 images (or 12-13 rolls of
film)



Author: Melbourne Theatre Company

Related Dates: 20 November 1963

Document Type: Photograph

Black and white negative

Digital Access Status: Digital resource

available. Check Digital Resource field for link

Conditions of Use: This item is in copyright and has been published for research purposes only with the permission of the Talbot Family. For information about ordering a copy of this

image contact the University of Melbourne Archives: archives@archives.unimelb.edu.au

Archives Reference: 1975.0039.00064

Digital Resource:

[https://gallery.its.unimelb.edu.au/](https://gallery.its.unimelb.edu.au/imu/imu.php?request=multimedia&irn=14490)

[imu/imu.php?request=multimedia&irn=14490](https://gallery.its.unimelb.edu.au/imu/imu.php?request=multimedia&irn=14490)

URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/11343/92145151295>

Item: [1975.0039.00064] "A cheery soul"



Description

Photograph 67: From act three: "Miss Docker, you have killed my saint." Shows (l-r) Nita Pannell as Miss Docker, Brian James as Mr Wakeman (collapsed) and Gerda Nicolson as Mrs Wakeman. Photographs 66-74 similar.

<https://digitised-collections.unimelb.edu.au/handle/11343/92144>

Image Volume 1963 vs 2005

A Cheery Soul by Patrick White
Union Theatre, Parkville, VIC
19 November 1963

148 images (or 12-13 rolls of
film)

Aether, by Lucy Guerin
North Melbourne Town Hall, North
Melbourne, VIC
15 March 2005

1,331 image files (across 35 folders)



Possible Solutions?

1. Integrated workflow



Possible Solutions?

1. Integrated workflow
2. Retention guidelines

“... deleting content is hard work ...”

(Ball and Day, 2009: 147)



Possible Solutions?

1. Integrated workflow
2. Retention guidelines
3. Interface development

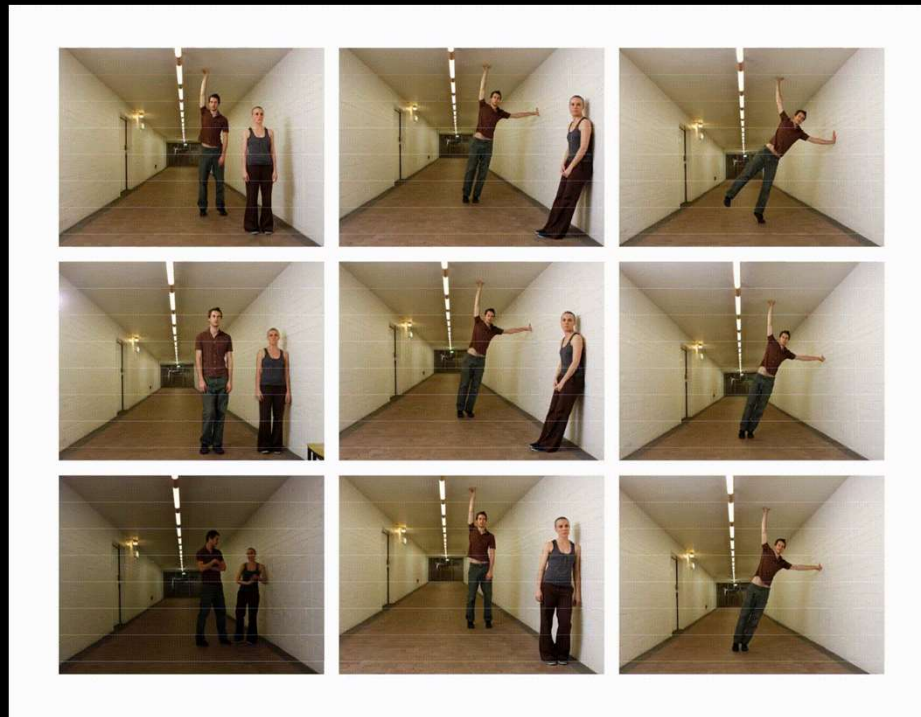


Our Solution

Delivery version (PDF photo wallet) combining images from a single performance or shoot into one document



Our Solution



Document Type: Photograph

Citations: Busby, Jeff. (2008). Photo wallet of rehearsal images of Lucy Guerin's Corridor. [Photograph].

Access Status: Open Access

URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/11343/213401>

Linked Resource URL

<https://www.ausstage.edu.au/pages/event/78588>

Description: A photo wallet (PDF) created by the Theatre and Dance Platform combining 286 rehearsal images provided by Lucy Guerin Inc.

Abstract: Rehearsal images of a development of Lucy Guerin's Corridor taken by Jeff Busby on 11 April 2008 on-site in an actual corridor. Photos feature dancers Sara Black, Antony Hamilton, Kirstie McCracken, Byron Perry, Harriet Ritchie and Lee Serle.

Notes: Original files labelled Corridor1_001.JPG to Corridor1_286.JPG.

Work: Corridor; Country of Origin: Australia; Creator

Contributors: Lucy Guerin; Organisations: Lucy Guerin Inc.

Production: Corridor, Arts House Meat Market , North Melbourne, VIC., 16 October - 25 October, 2008

Keywords: Contemporary Dance



<https://digitised-collections.unimelb.edu.au/handle/11343/92018>

Concluding thoughts...

... on the challenges faced by researchers trying to curate their data in the context of an institutional repository.

